

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, rewrite claim 2 in independent form, and independent claims 15 and 16 to incorporate features of prior dependent claim 2 therein, amend the dependency of claims 3 and 7 - 14, and add new dependent claims 21 and 22.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled)

2. (currently amended) A flat panel display device according to claim 1 comprising:

a rear substrate including an insulating substrate and a plurality of cold cathode elements disposed on said insulating substrate for emitting electrons;

a display substrate including a light-transmissive substrate disposed to face said rear substrate and phosphors disposed on said light-transmissive substrate for generating light when excited by electron beams from said plurality of cold cathode elements;

a peripheral frame member interposed between said rear substrate and said display substrate such that a space enclosed by said peripheral frame member, said rear substrate and said display substrate is vacuum tight;

a metal sheet provided on a surface of said light-transmissive substrate facing toward said rear substrate and perforated with a plurality of holes each corresponding to one of said plurality of cold cathode elements; and

a metal back adapted to be supplied with an anode voltage for leading said electrons from said plurality of cold cathode elements toward said metal sheet;

wherein each of said plurality of holes has a corresponding one of said phosphors disposed therewithin, and a thickness of said metal sheet is greater than a thickness of said phosphors disposed within said plurality of holes; and

wherein said display substrate further includes an adherent layer for affixing said metal sheet to said light-transmissive substrate.

3. (currently amended) A flat panel display device according to claim 1, wherein said metal sheet is perforated with said plurality of holes after said metal sheet is affixed to said light-transmissive substrate with an adherent layer.

4. (original) A flat panel display device according to claim 2, wherein said adherent layer is made chiefly of one of glass, ceramics and alumina.

5. (original) A flat panel display device according to claim 4, wherein said adherent layer is a layer having its light transmission limited to a specified value, and made chiefly of one of a glass, ceramics and alumina.

6. (original) A flat panel display device according to claim 2, wherein coefficients of thermal expansion of said metal sheet, said light-transmissive substrate and said adherent layer are approximately equal to one another.

7. (currently amended) A flat panel display device according to claim-42, wherein said metal sheet has a uniform thickness in a range of from 20 μm to 250 μm .

8. (currently amended) A flat panel display device according to claim-42, wherein said metal sheet is made of an alloy made chiefly of Fe-Ni.

9. (currently amended) A flat panel display device according to claim-42, wherein a cross-sectional shape of said holes is rounded.

10. (currently amended) A flat panel display device according to claim-42, wherein a surface of said metal sheet facing toward said light-transmissive substrate is approximately black.

11. (currently amended) A flat panel display device according to claim-42, wherein inner walls of said plurality of holes are electrically conductive.

12. (currently amended) A flat panel display device according to claim-42, wherein a cross-sectional shape of said phosphors is generally U-shaped.

13. (currently amended) A flat panel display device according to claim-42, wherein said metal sheet is provided on a side thereof facing toward said rear substrate with said metal back .

14. (currently amended) A flat panel display device according to claim-42, wherein said flat panel display device further comprises spacers for maintaining a spacing between said rear substrate and said display substrate, and said metal sheet is provided with recesses for holding said spacers.

15. (currently amended) A display device comprising:

- a rear substrate provided with a plurality of cold cathode elements for emitting electrons;
- a display substrate including a light-transmissive substrate disposed to face said rear substrate;
- an electrically conductive sheet provided on a surface of said light-transmissive substrate facing toward said rear substrate, and
- a metal back adapted to be supplied with an anode voltage for leading said electrons from said plurality of cold cathode elements toward said electrically conductive sheet, said metal back being provided on a side of said electrically conductive sheet facing toward said rear substrate;

wherein said electrically conductive sheet is perforated with a plurality of holes each corresponding to one of said plurality of cold cathode elements, each of said plurality of holes has a phosphor disposed therewithin for generating light when excited by said electrons emitted from said plurality of cold cathode elements, and a thickness of said electrically conductive sheet being greater than a thickness of said phosphors disposed within said plurality of holes; and

wherein said display substrate further includes an adherent layer for affixing said electrically conductive sheet to said light-transmissive substrate.

16. (currently amended) A display device comprising:

- a rear substrate provided with a plurality of cold cathode elements for emitting electrons;
- a display substrate including a light-transmissive substrate disposed to face said rear substrate;
- a black sheet provided on a surface of said light-transmissive substrate facing toward said rear substrate; and
- a metal back adapted to be supplied with an anode voltage for leading said electrons from said plurality of cold cathode elements toward said black sheet;

wherein said black sheet is perforated with a plurality of holes each corresponding to one of said plurality of cold cathode elements, each of said plurality of holes having a phosphor disposed therewithin for generating light when excited by said electrons emitted from said plurality of cold cathode elements, and a thickness of said black sheet is greater than a thickness of said phosphor disposed within said plurality of holes; and

wherein said display substrate further includes an adherent layer for affixing said black sheet to said light-transmissive substrate.

17. (previously presented) A flat panel display device according to claim 16, wherein said black sheet is electrically conductive, and said metal back is provided on a side of said black sheet facing toward said rear substrate.

18. (original) A flat panel display device according to claim 16, wherein said black sheet is made of a metal.

19. (previously presented) A flat panel display device comprising:

a rear substrate provided with a plurality of cold cathode elements for emitting electrons;

a display substrate including a light-transmissive substrate disposed to face said rear substrate;

spacers interposed between said rear substrate and said display substrate for maintaining a spacing therebetween; and

an electrically conductive sheet provided on a surface of said light-transmissive substrate facing toward said rear substrate, and

a metal back adapted to be supplied with an anode voltage for leading said electrons from said plurality of cold cathode elements toward said electrically conductive sheet;

wherein said electrically conductive sheet is perforated with a plurality of holes each corresponding to one of said plurality of cold cathode elements, each of said plurality of holes having a phosphor disposed therewithin for generating light when excited by said electrons emitted from said plurality of cold cathode elements, said electrically conductive sheet is provided with recesses for holding said spacers, at positions of said electrically conductive sheet which do not interfere with said plurality of holes, and a thickness of said electrically conductive sheet is greater than a thickness of said phosphor disposed within said plurality of holes.

Claim 20 (canceled)

21. (new) A flat panel display device according to claim 19, wherein said electrically conductive sheet is a metal sheet.

22. (new) A flat panel display device according to claim 19, wherein said electrically conductive sheet is a black sheet.